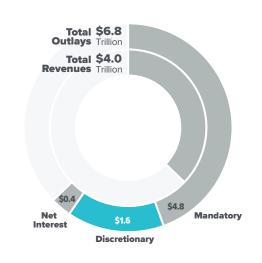
THE FEDERAL BUDGET IN FISCAL YEAR 2021

A Closer Look at Discretionary Spending



Spending that lawmakers control annually through appropriation acts

\$1.6
Trillion

Discretionary outlays by the federal government in 2021

\$0.9
Trillion

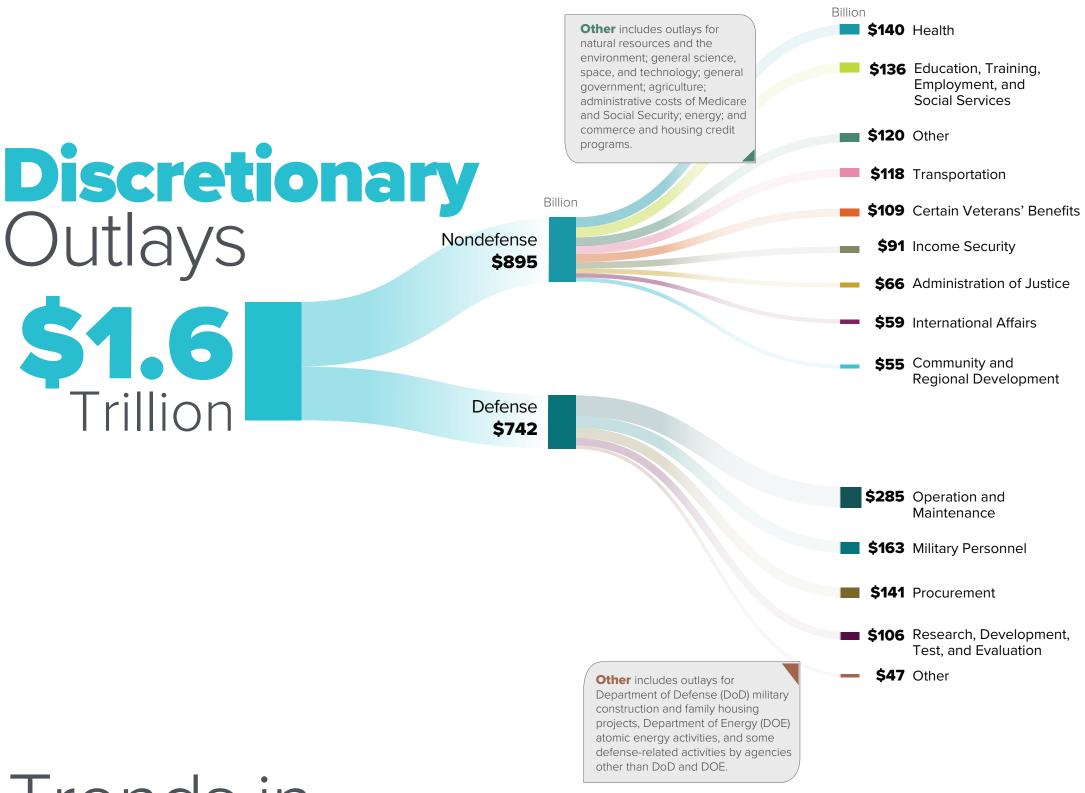
Outlays for nondefense programs, which accounted for more than half of the discretionary total, in 2021

7.3%
of GDP

Discretionary
outlays
in 2021

7.3%
of GDP

Average annual discretionary outlays between 2001 and 2020



Trends in **Discretionary** Outlays

Percentage of GDP

